

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PRETOR 00298 171307Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----030229 171311Z /50
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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0227

S E C R E T PRETORIA 0298

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, MNUC, SF
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR TALKS

REF: (A) PRETORIA 171, (B) STATE 009388

1. I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF MY TRIP TO CAPE TOWN TO BRIEF HENRY FORD TO CALL ON BRAND FOURI. DEPT WILL RECALL THAT HE CANCELLED OUR JANUARY 13 MEETING IN PRETORIA AND WE AGREED INSTEAD TO MEET IN CAPE TOWN ON JANUARY 16.

2. FOURI OPENED THE CONVERSATION BY SAYING THAT HE REGRETTED THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH AEB HEAD. DR. ROUX, WHO HAD NOT RETURNED FROM VACATION. AS A RESULT HE WAS STILL NOT IN POSITION TO DISCUSS THE VISIT OF THE TECHNICAL TEAM.

3. DRAWING ON THE POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL B, I REVIEWED THE SCHEDULE WE HAD IN MIND AND INDICATED THAT CONTINUED SLIPPAG WOULD REDUCE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A USEFUL EXCHANGE WITH AMB. SMITH IN VIENNA AND PREJUDICE THE CHANCES OF WORKING OUT A NUCLEAR SETTLEMENT WITHIN AN ACCEPTABLE TIMEFRAME. FOURIE COUNTERED THAT WE COULD TALK ABOUT THE TECHNICAL TEAM QUESTION WHEN I RETURNED TO CAPE TOWN (WE SET 10:00 A.M. FRIDAY, JANUARY 20).

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WITH REGARD TO VIENNA HE SAID THAT GIVEN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IT WAS VERY DOUBTFUL THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD SEND A HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION TO THE MEETING. THUS, THERE WOULD BE NO ONE OF SUFFICIENT RANK AND AUTHORITY TO TALK WITH AMBASSADOR SMITH. OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE FOR THIS EXCHANGE.

3. COMMENT: FOURIE DID NOT APPEAR TO BE AVOIDING A
RESPONSE TO OUR INITIATIVE ON THE VISIT OF
A TECHNICAL TEAM, BUT HE DISPLAYED NO SENSE OF URGENCY.
THE FRIDAY SESSION, AFTER EVERYONE IS BACK FROM VACATION,
WILL BE A BETTER INDICATOR OF SAG INTENTIONS.
BOWDLER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRIEFINGS, MEETINGS, NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, NEGOTIATIONS, CAT-B
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Draft Date: 17 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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